

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A medical device for delivering a medicament to a patient, comprising:

a syringe assembly comprising:

a barrel having a forward end and a rear end and defining a reservoir within which the medicament may be contained, said barrel having a radial flange arranged between said forward end and said rear end;

a needle cannula having a forward tip and being coupled to said forward end of said barrel and in fluid communication with said reservoir; and

a plunger having a first end with a stopper positioned in said reservoir and a second end having a thumb pad for receiving medicament delivery pressure for causing said plunger to move within said reservoir to cause the medicament to be expelled from said reservoir;

a hollow shield body receiving said syringe barrel therein, said syringe barrel being selectively movable within said shield body between a first position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is exposed, and a second position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is contained within said shield body;

a flange clip fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body proximate a rear facing end of said hollow shield body, wherein said flange clip comprises a first retainer fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body to prevent axial movement of said first retainer with respect to said hollow shield body, said first retainer releasably securing said syringe barrel in said first position, and a second retainer spaced axially from said first retainer, wherein said radial flange

is positioned between said first and second retainers when said syringe barrel is in said second position, said hollow shield body further comprises a rim and said flange clip comprises a recess engaging said rim for connecting said flange clip to said hollow shield body, said recess being arranged axially between said first and second retainers; and

an urging member acting on a portion of said hollow shield body and said radial flange of said syringe barrel for urging said syringe barrel from said first position toward said second position, said thumb pad being configured to interact with said first retainer upon movement of said stopper to a position proximate said syringe barrel forward end to release said syringe barrel from said first retainer and enable said urging member to move said syringe barrel from said first position to said second position upon release of medicament delivery pressure from said thumb pad.

2.-3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said hollow shield body further comprises a step having a rear facing surface for receiving an end of said urging member.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 4, wherein said step divides said hollow shield body into a first cylindrical portion having a first diameter and a

second cylindrical portion having a second diameter different than said first diameter, said urging member being arranged in said second cylindrical portion.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 1, wherein a front facing surface of said second retainer and a rear facing surface of said radial flange are mutually inclined to allow said flange to pass over said second retainer when said syringe barrel is moved from said first position toward said second position.

9. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said first and second retainers comprise flexible arms.

10. (original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said urging member comprises a spring.

11. (original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said first retainer is formed unitarily with said shield body.

12.-13. (canceled)

14. (original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said syringe barrel is plastic.

15. (original) The medical device of claim 10, wherein said shield body comprises a step having a rear facing surface for receiving an end of said spring.

16. (original) The medical device of claim 15, wherein said syringe barrel further comprises a radial flange for receiving another end of said spring.

17. (original) The medical device of claim 16, wherein said step divides said hollow shield body into a first cylindrical portion having a first diameter and a second cylindrical portion having a second diameter different than said first diameter, said spring being arranged in said second cylindrical portion.

18. (original) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said first retainer is moved radially outward to release said syringe barrel.

19. (canceled) The medical device of claim 1, wherein said first retainer is moved radially inward to release said syringe barrel.

20. (previously presented) A combination comprising a medical syringe assembly and a safety shield, said medical syringe assembly comprising a barrel having a forward end and a rear end and defining a reservoir within which a medicament may be contained, said barrel having a radial flange arranged between said forward end and said rear end, a needle cannula having a forward tip and being coupled to said forward end of said barrel.

and in fluid communication with said reservoir, and a plunger having a first end with a stopper positioned in said reservoir and a second end having a thumb pad for receiving medicament delivery pressure for causing said plunger to move within said reservoir to cause the medicament to be expelled from said reservoir;

said safety shield comprising a hollow shield body receiving said syringe barrel therein, said syringe barrel being selectively movable within said shield body between a first position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is exposed, and a second position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is contained within said shield body, and a flange clip fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body proximate a rear facing end of said hollow shield body, wherein said flange clip comprises a first retainer fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body to prevent axial movement of said first retainer with respect to said hollow shield body, said first retainer releasably securing said syringe barrel in said first position, and a second retainer spaced axially from said first retainer, wherein said radial flange is positioned between said first and second retainers when said syringe barrel is in said second position, said hollow shield body further comprises a rim and said flange clip comprises a recess engaging said rim for connecting said flange clip to said hollow shield body, said recess being arranged axially between said first and second retainers; and an urging member acting on a portion of said hollow shield body and said radial flange of said syringe barrel for urging said syringe barrel from said first position toward said second position, said thumb pad being configured to interact with said first retainer upon movement of said stopper to a position proximate said syringe barrel forward end to release said syringe barrel from said first retainer and enable said urging member to move said syringe barrel from said first position to said second position upon release of medicament delivery pressure from said thumb pad.

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 20, wherein said hollow shield body further comprises a step having a rear facing surface for receiving one end of said urging member.

23. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 22, wherein said a radial flange receives another end of said urging member.

24. (original) The medical device of claim 23, wherein said step divides said hollow shield body into a first cylindrical portion having a first diameter and a second cylindrical portion having a second diameter different than said first diameter, said urging member being arranged in said second cylindrical portion.

25. (original) The medical device of claim 20, wherein said urging member comprises a spring.

26. (previously presented) A medical device for delivering a medicament to a patient, comprising:

a syringe assembly comprising:

a barrel having a forward end and a rear end and defining a reservoir within which the medicament may be contained, said barrel having a radial flange arranged between said forward end and said rear end;

a needle cannula having a forward tip and being coupled to said forward end of said barrel and in fluid communication with said reservoir; and

a plunger having a first end with a stopper positioned in said reservoir and a second end having a thumb pad for receiving medicament delivery pressure for causing said plunger to move within said reservoir to cause the medicament to be expelled from said reservoir;

a hollow shield body receiving said syringe barrel therein, said syringe barrel being selectively movable within said shield body between a first position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is exposed, and a second position in which said forward tip of said needle cannula is contained within said shield body;

a flange clip fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body proximate a rear facing end of said hollow shield body, wherein said flange clip comprises a first retainer fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body to prevent axial movement of said retainer means with respect to said hollow shield body, said first retainer means for releasably securing said syringe barrel in said first position, and second retainer means axially spaced from said first retainer means, said radial flange being held between said first and second retainer means when said syringe barrel is in said second position, said hollow shield body further comprises a rim and said flange clip comprises a recess engaging said rim for connecting said flange clip to said hollow shield body, said recess being arranged axially between said first and second retainers;

means for urging said syringe barrel from said first position toward said second position, said means for urging acting on said radial flange of said syringe barrel; and

said thumb comprising means for interacting with said first retainer upon movement of said stopper to a position proximate said syringe barrel forward end to release said syringe barrel from said first retainer and enable said urging means to move said syringe barrel from said first position to said second position upon release of medicament delivery pressure from said thumb pad.

27. (original) The medical device of claim 26, wherein said means for interacting comprises a configured shape of said thumb pad.

28. (original) The medical device of claim 26, wherein said means for urging comprises a spring.

29. (currently amended) A medical device for delivering a medicament to a patient, comprising:

a reservoir within which the medicament may be contained and having a unitarily molded feature, said reservoir having a forward end to which a needle cannula may be connected;

a plunger receivable in said reservoir and having a thumb pad;

a hollow shield body coupled with said reservoir, said reservoir being selectively movable with respect to said shield body between a first position in which a forward tip of the needle cannula is exposed, and a second position in which a forward tip of the needle cannula is

contained within said hollow shield body, said hollow shield body having a flange clip fixedly coupled to said hollow shield body proximate a rear facing end of said hollow shield body, wherein said flange clip comprises a first retainer movable radially outward for engaging said reservoir to enable movement of said reservoir from said first position to said second position and to releasably secure said hollow shield body in said first position, and said flange clip having a second retainer for directly engaging said unitarily molded feature of said reservoir to secure said reservoir relative to said hollow shield body in said second position, said hollow shield body further comprises a rim and said flange clip comprises a recess engaging said rim for connecting said flange clip to said hollow shield body, said recess being arranged axially between said first and second retainers; and

said thumb pad being configured to interact with said first retainer upon movement of said plunger in a direction toward said forward end of said reservoir to release said first retainer and enable movement of said reservoir from said first position to said second position.

30. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 29, wherein said second retainer has an inclined front facing surface to allow said unitarily molded feature to pass over said second retainer when said unitarily molded barrel feature is moved from said first position toward said second position.

31. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 29, wherein said first and second retainers comprise flexible arms.

32. (previously presented) The medical device of claim 29, wherein said reservoir comprises a plastic syringe barrel.

33. (canceled)